



**TENNESSEE**

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

**CHARTER SCHOOL  
DATA LANDSCAPE**

**JULY 27, 2023**

# KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **The claim that charter schools in Tennessee serve more advantaged students is unfounded.**
  - Charter schools serve a larger percentage of students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds.
  - Charter school students are more likely to be further behind academically as compared to traditional public schools in Tennessee.
- **The claim that charter schools drastically underperform state averages academically is incomplete.**
  - Overall, statewide proficiency rates are higher than charter schools and districts with charter schools.
  - However, in most cases, charter schools outperform the proficiency rates of the state and districts with charter schools for when looking at English Learners and Students with Disabilities.
  - Additionally, Tennessee charter schools have higher growth rates and TVAAS composite scores than the state averages and districts with charter schools.



# CHARTER SCHOOL SECTOR

**In SY 21-22, charter school students made up 5% of all Tennessee public school students.**

Locations	Nashville	Memphis	Knoxville	Chattanooga
Number of Schools	27	57	1	6
Percent of District Students	16%	19%	1%	4%

Based on SY21-22 Data

District	Number of Schools	Locations
TPCSC	4	Nashville and Memphis
ASD*	19	Nashville and Memphis

\*Given the criteria required to be designated as an ASD school and its turnaround nature, ASD data has been excluded from charter school data within this presentation.



Source: 21-22 TDOE Data Downloads District and Schools Profile

# WHO ATTENDS CHARTER SCHOOLS?

- Charter schools generally serve higher percentages of the BHN subgroup and the economically disadvantaged subgroup than the overall district in which they are located.
- Charter schools service of SWD/EL students are more mixed by district.

	Hamilton		Knox		MNPS		MSCS		TPCSC
	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter	District	Charter
BHN	74%	49%	86%	29%	80%	71%	94%	93%	75%
ED	39%	28%	54%	21%	33%	35%	60%	57%	37%
SWD	19%	13%	16%	14%	12%	12%	8%	10%	10%
LEP/ EL	11%	11%	8%	8%	28%	27%	15%	13%	27%

**BHN** - Black, Hispanic, Native American **ED** - Economically Disadvantaged  
**SWD** - Students with Disabilities **LEP/EL** - Limited English Proficiency/English Learner

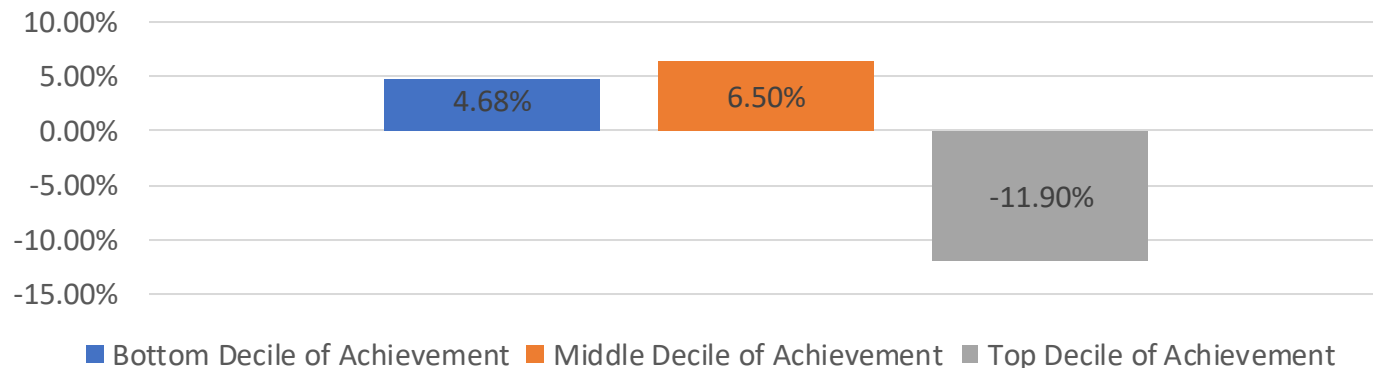


Source: 21-22 TDOE Data Downloads District and Schools Profile

# WHO ATTENDS CHARTER SCHOOLS?

- The 2023 CREDO report found that nationally the claim that charter schools serve more advantaged population of students was unsubstantiated by the student data.
- For charter schools in Tennessee, CREDO's report found that charter schools, on average, are enrolling students in the bottom and middle deciles of achievement more than other feeder schools.

Percent Enrollment Comparing Tennessee Charter and Traditional Public Schools by Decile of Achievement



Source: 2023 CREDO Report - The National Charter School Study III - p. 41-43 - [Credo-NCSS3-Report.pdf\(stanford.edu\)](https://credo-ncss3-report.stanford.edu)

# WHAT IS SUCCESS RATE?

- Success rate = overall proficiency rates on TCAP
  - Success rates represent the total number of valid TCAP tests with a performance level of met expectations and exceeded expectations divided by the total number of valid TCAP tests.
- Success rates are calculated and used by the Tennessee Department of Education in 1-year and 3-year intervals to determine district/school accountability and priority school designations.



# WHAT IS SUCCESS RATE?

The Commission functionally uses success rate to determine academic proficiency for schools in the following ways:

- To determine the percent of students achieving (met and exceeding expectations) in each subject on the school performance framework (SPF).
- To determine the percent of subgroups of students achieving in Math and ELA on the SPF.
- Success rate is calculated for the resident district for comparison purposes on the SPF.

Source: Tennessee Public Charter Commission Policy 3.700 – School Performance Framework.  
Revised January 27, 2023



# KEY TAKEAWAYS

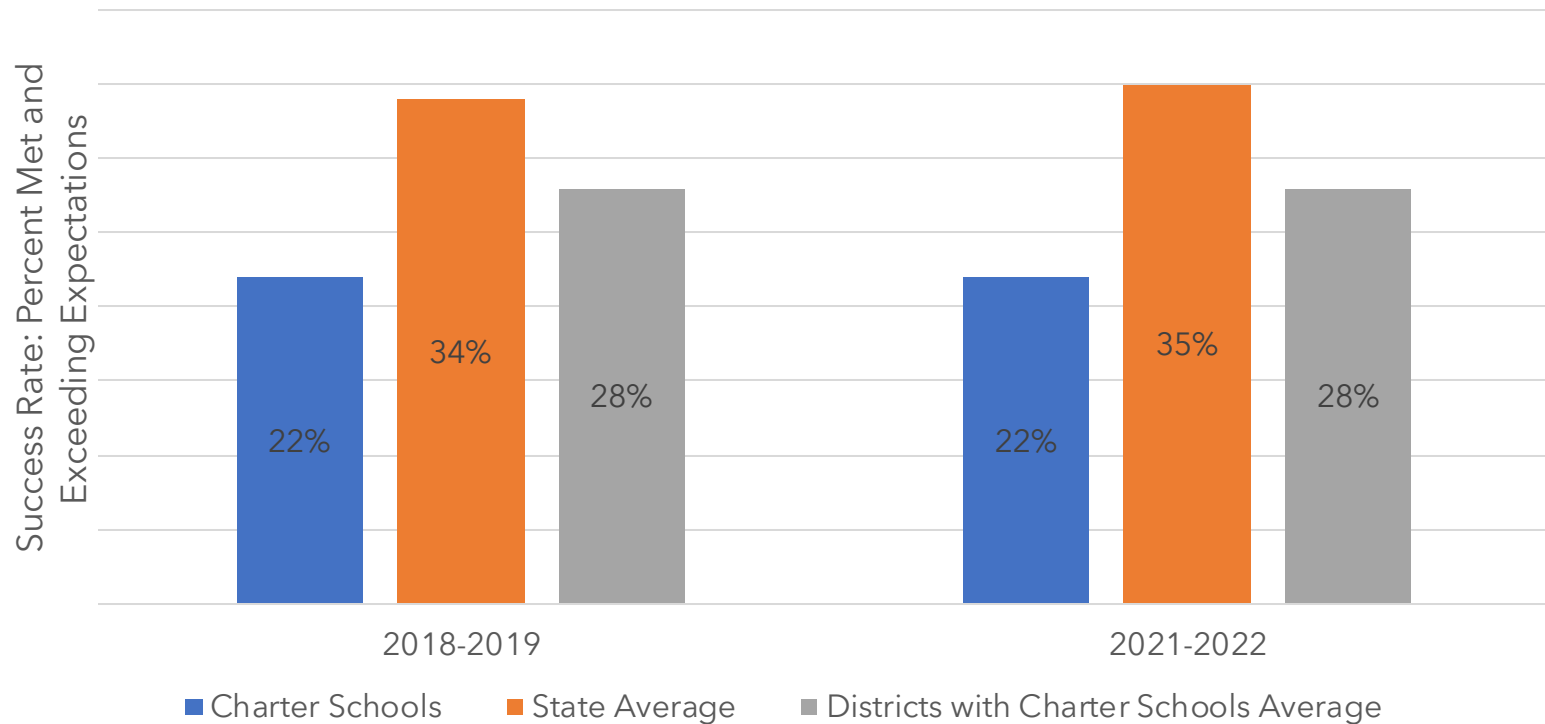
- **Success rate measures student proficiency on TCAP.**  
Statewide averages for success rate are higher than both charter schools and districts with charter schools.
- Since SY18-19, the success rate of EL students in charter schools is consistently higher than EL students in the charter schools' geographic district of residence, and in some cases perform at or above the state average.
- Since SY18-19, the success rate of SWD in charter schools is higher than SWD in the charter schools' geographic district of residence and consistently outperform state averages.





# SUCCESS RATE – ALL STUDENTS

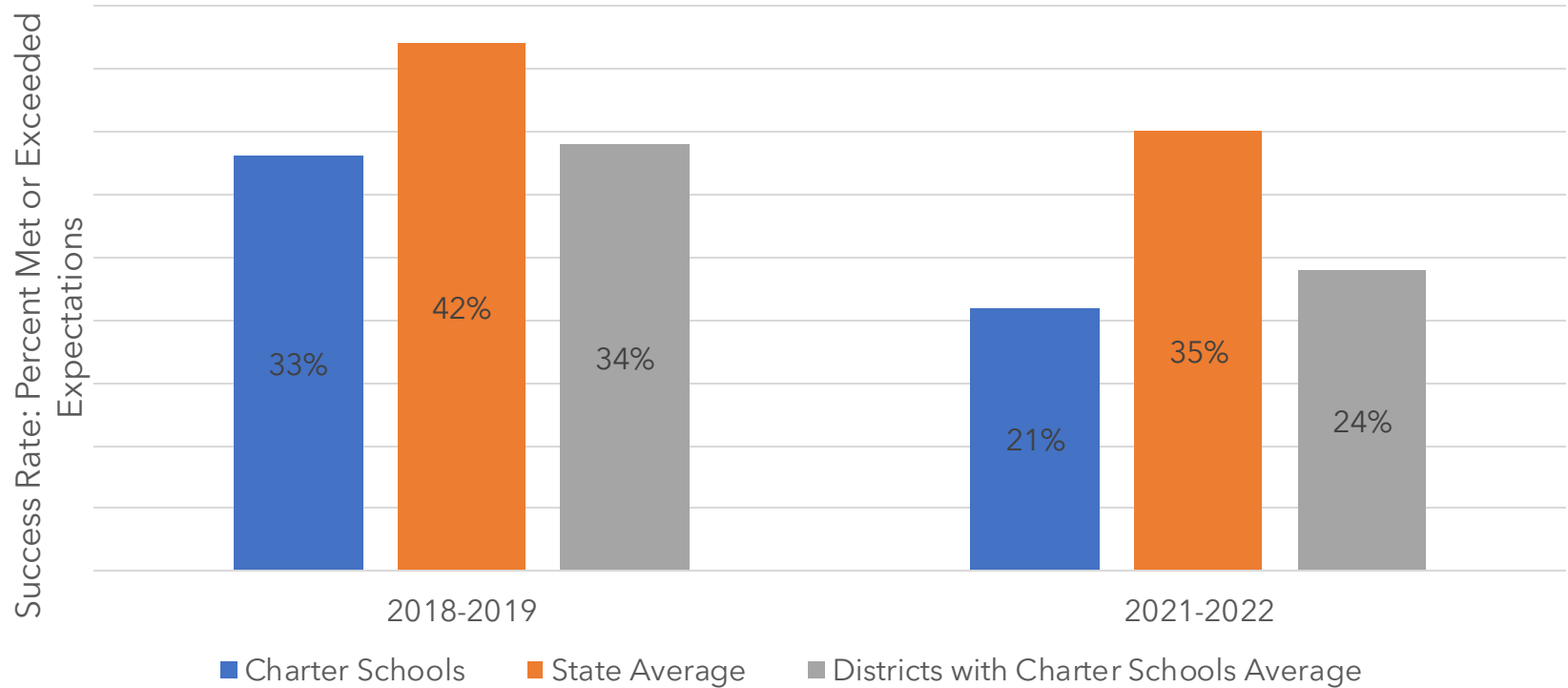
## English Language Arts



Source: TDOE SY18-19 and SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads

# SUCCESS RATE – ALL STUDENTS

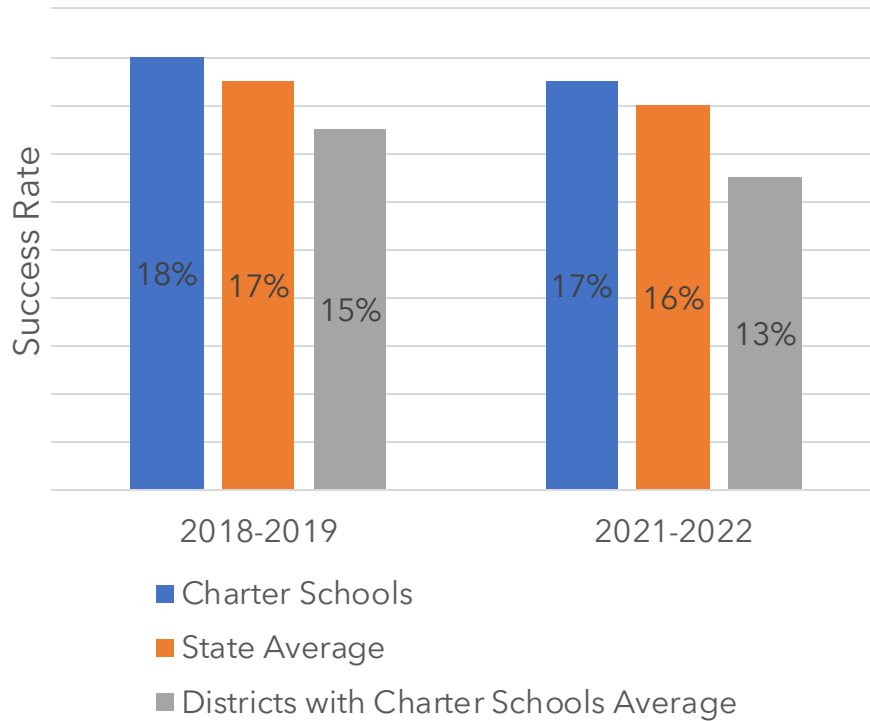
Math



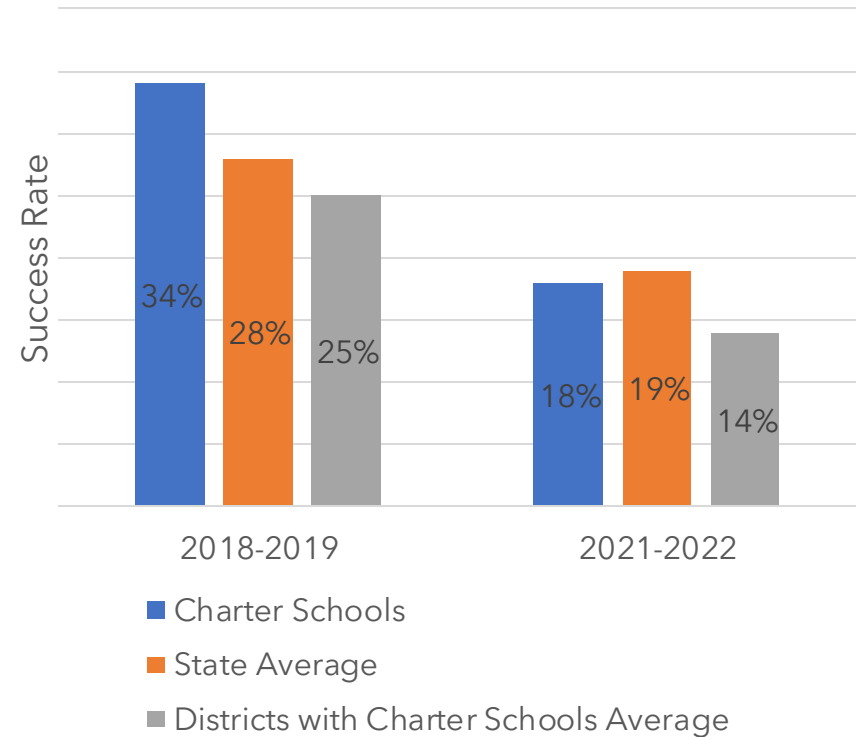
Source: TDOE SY18-19 and SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads

# SUCCESS RATE - SUBGROUPS

## English Learners (ELA)



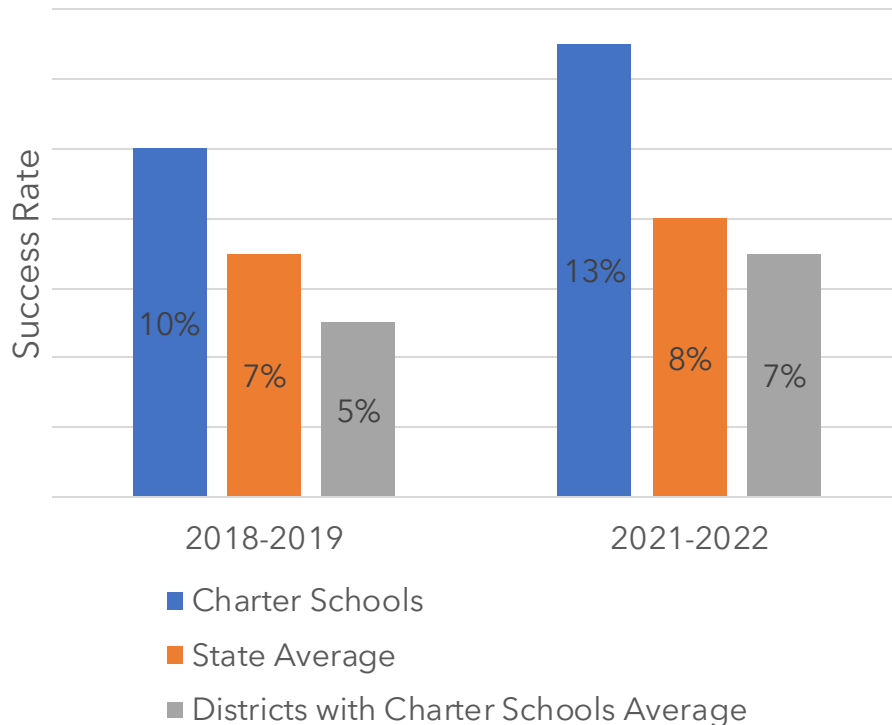
## English Learners (Math)



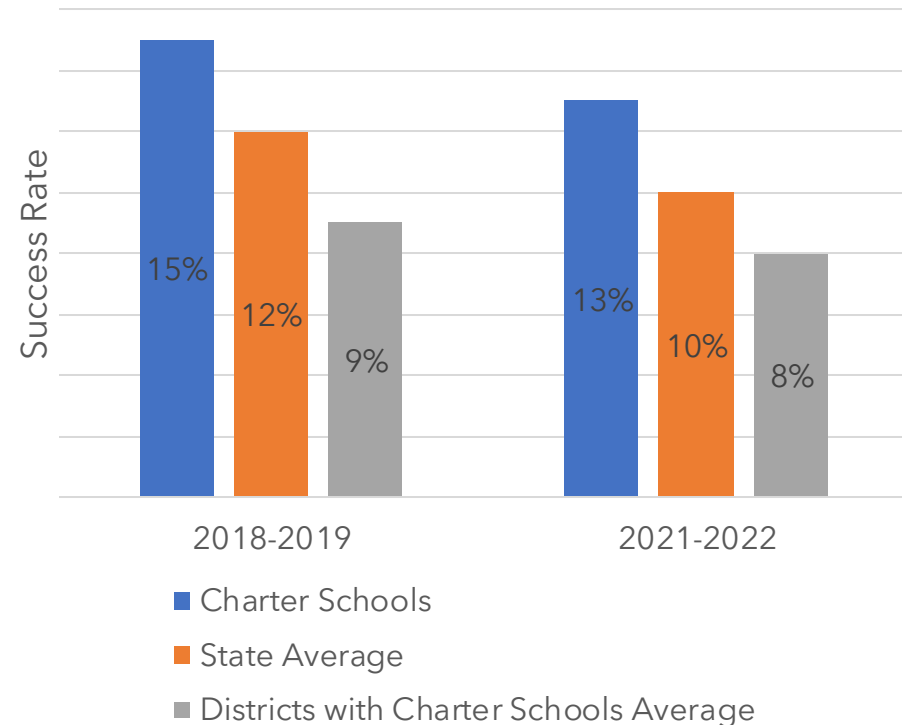
Source: TDOE SY18-19 and SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads

# SUCCESS RATE - SUBGROUPS

Students with Disabilities (ELA)



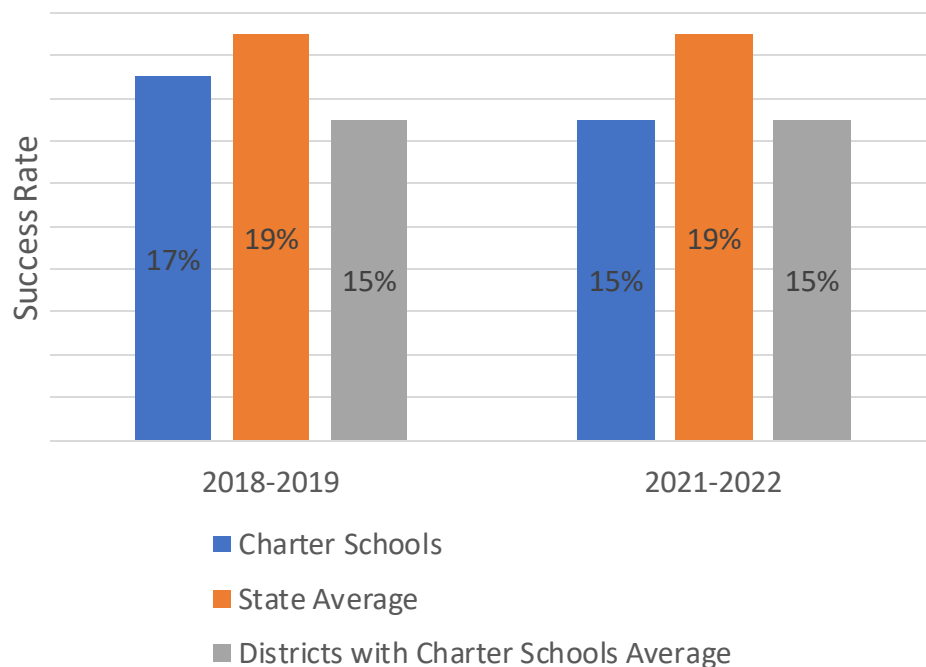
Students with Disabilities (Math)



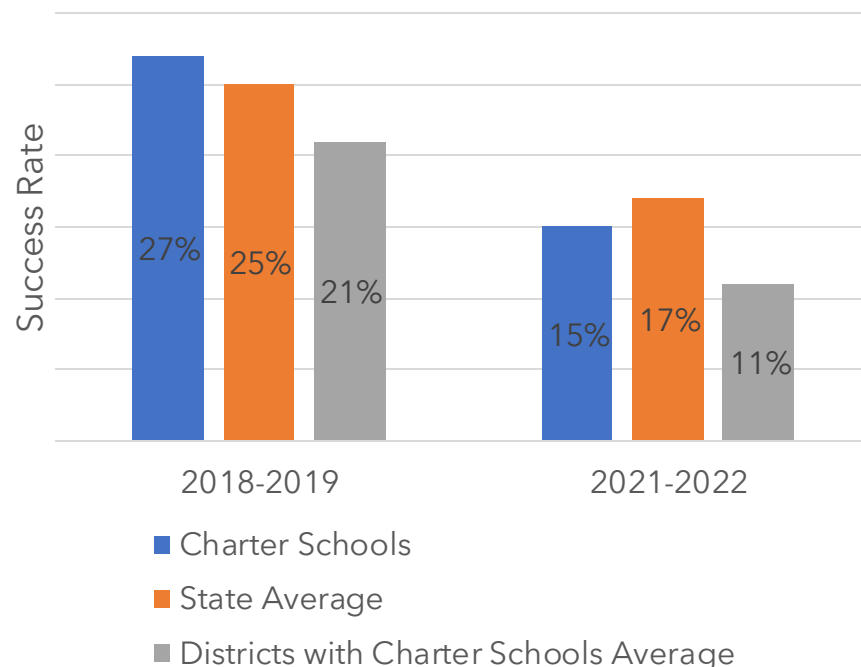
Source: TDOE SY18-19 and SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads

# SUCCESS RATE - SUBGROUPS

## Economically Disadvantaged (ELA)



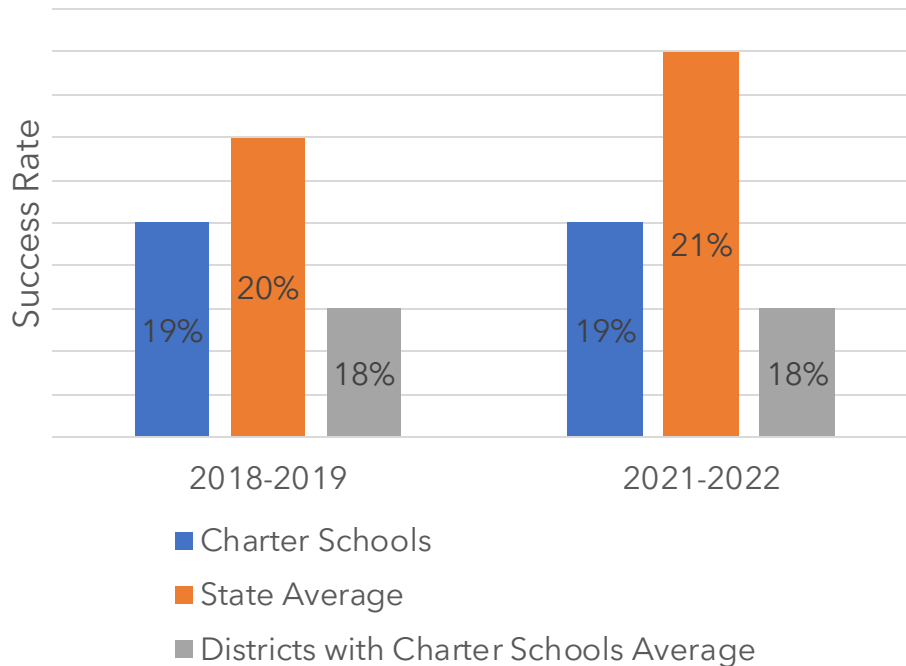
## Economically Disadvantaged (Math)



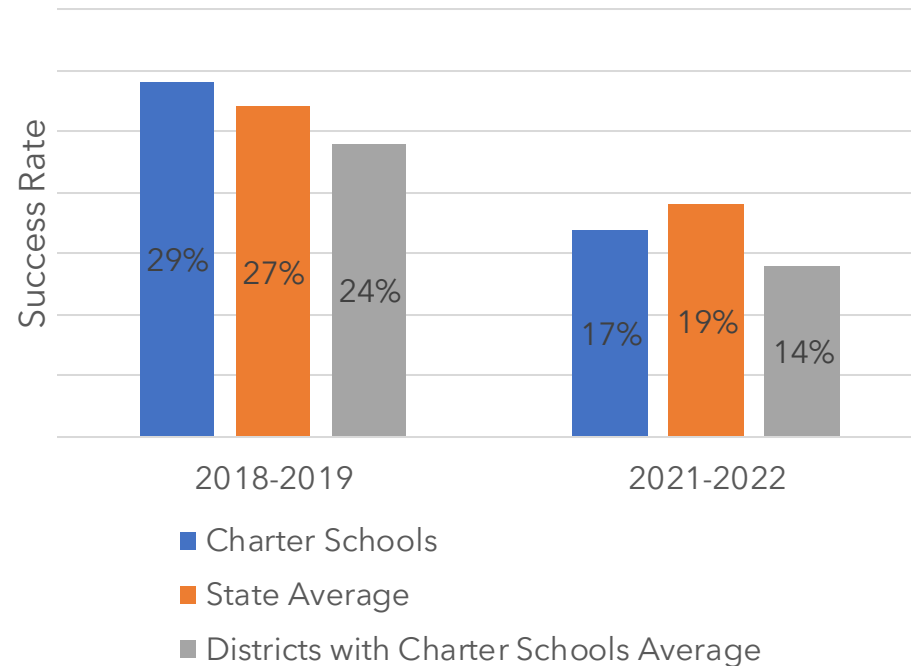
Source: TDOE SY18-19 and SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads

# SUCCESS RATE - SUBGROUPS

Black, Hispanic, and Native American (ELA)



Black, Hispanic, and Native American (Math)



Source: TDOE SY18-19 and SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads

# STUDENT GROWTH

- Tennessee charter school students are outpacing their peers at traditional public schools in growth.
  - Tennessee charter school students receive the equivalent of an additional 33.5 days of learning than in a typical public school in reading and 38.7 in math.
  - Tennessee also consistently kept this growth trajectory since 2013.
- Public charter schools outpaced traditional public schools in growth rates in the 2021-2022 school year.
  - 79% of charter schools scored a TVAAS 3 or higher vs. only 66% of traditional public schools.

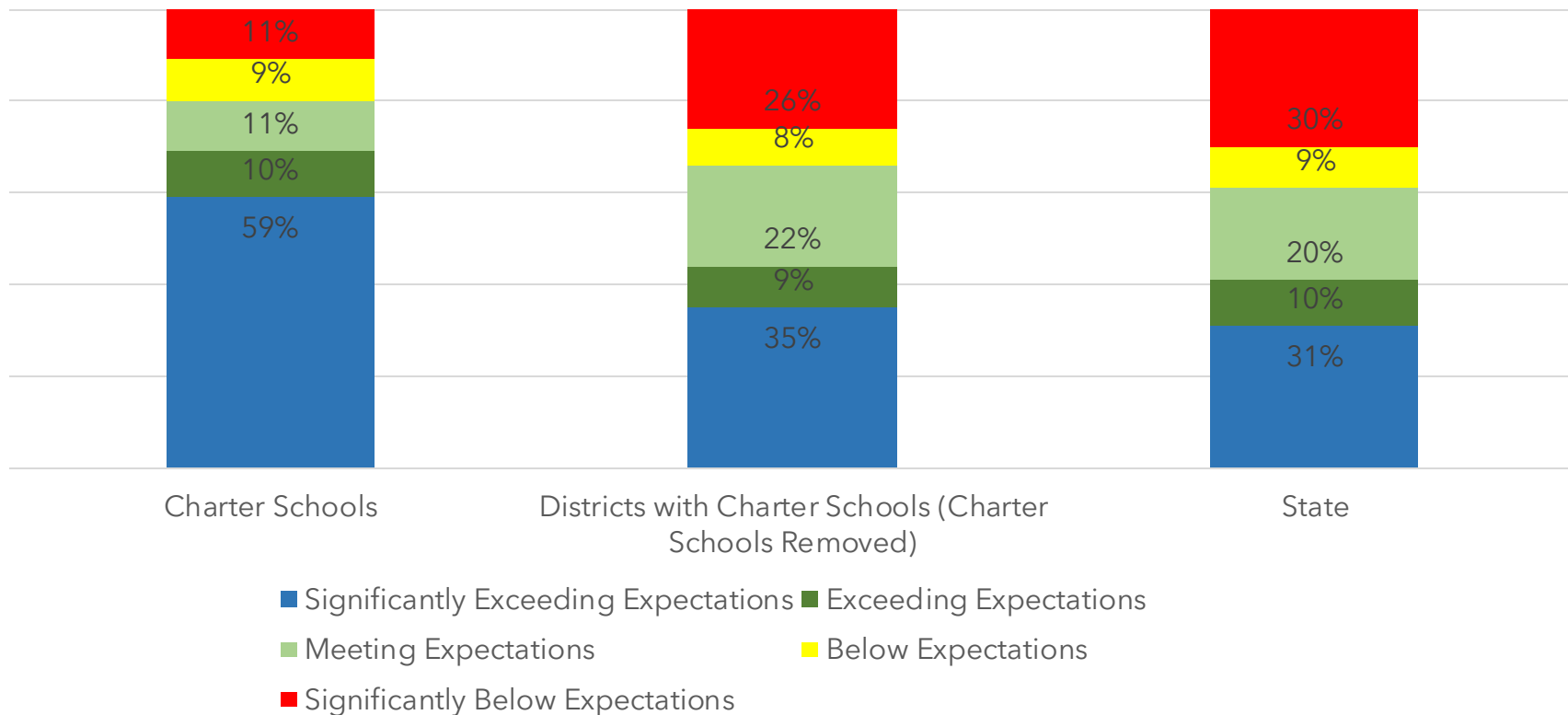
Source: 2023 CREDO Report – The National Charter School Study III – p. 45-51 - [Credo-NCSS3-Report.pdf \(stanford.edu\)](#)

Source: TDOE SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads



# STUDENT GROWTH

## TVAAS Composite Comparison



Source: TDOE SY21-22 School Accountability Files. Accessed via Data Downloads



# NEXT STEPS

- Commission staff will provide an update regarding SY22-23 data once unembargoed and available, ideally during the October 2023 meeting.
- This data will include:
  - Student Outcomes (letter grade)
  - Success rates
  - Comparative data to resident district
  - TVAAS
  - Mission-specific goal outcomes for schools.
- Commission staff have begun reviewing preliminary data with schools in their year-end closeout meetings as available.





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